

THE INDEPENDENT

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HELENA, MONT., DEC. 16, 1889.

DESPERATE POLITICS.

New York World: The organization of a bogus legislature by the republicans in Montana, in order to steal the United States senators from that state, is a desperate and perilous political crime. There is not the slightest pretense of legality or regularity in the proceedings of the minority of the lower house. The governor's proclamation called the legislature to meet at the court house. There the senate and the legal house, whose regularity had been already practically passed upon in the courts, assembled. The republicans fraudulently claiming an election to the lower house met and organized in a different place. No one can predict the serious consequences that may follow this republican lawlessness nor the injury it may do to the prosperity and progress of the new state. The fraudulent legislature can have no recognition except at Washington. The governor of the state will of course recognize only the regular legislature. If the republican half of the senate refuses to act with the legal lower house the democratic half will refuse to pay any attention to the proceedings of the fraudulent house. There can be no withdrawal of either party from the senate, because neither acting alone would have a quorum. The governor will send his messages to the regular legislature, but it is evident that no legislation can be accomplished and that anarchy must prevail so far as the legislative branch of the government is concerned.

The stain on the character of the young state; this defiance of law and justice; this revolutionary overthrow of the will of the people; this blocking of the wheels of government; this imperiling of the peace of the state; this invitation to disorder and even bloodshed, are the price to be paid for two republican senators fraudulently chosen. This is not the first time that republican bosses have shown themselves ready to defy and defeat the will of the people, and the party will be held responsible for all the evil consequences which their lawlessness may entail.

PASS ON.

The cheap and nasty attacks of Mr. Russell B. Harrison's denouncing organ on the democratic party and its representative men are worthy of their source. Like the state stealing thieves and conspirators whose hired tool it is, it has been found out and spewed out by the honest people of Montana, and the utterances of its columns, which are prostituted to every party hack who wants to brace up his declining fortunes, are only the noisome exhalations of a political sewer. Self-respecting democrats will not be driven by abuse or blackguardism, or any form of misrepresentation from the plain path of duty in this crisis. The louder and shriller the discordant voices of exasperated and beaten candidates are raised through young Mr. Harrison's pipes the surer will the honest democracy feel that the state stealers are driven to the wall.

To-day may bring us near to the solution of the deadlock. We trust no democrat, in any part he may play in bringing about such a happy result, will be disposed to hold honest republicans responsible for the insults to his party contained in the hired columns of Mr. R. B. Harrison's organ. Consider the source and pass on to the business in hand.

A NEW LAND REFORMER.

Archbishop Walsh, of Dublin, has been advising Irish tenantry against acceptance of the proposed government land purchase scheme, or Ashbourne act, alleging that it gives no protection against landlord extortion. The act in question provides that a tenant may call upon the government to purchase his holding, he in turn contracting to buy it from the government, paying 3 1/2 per cent interest per annum upon the appraised valuation, and 1 per cent per annum in addition for forty-nine years to be applied upon the principal. Supposing a tenant has been paying an annual rental of £100, this system would save him in forty-nine years the sum of £1,000, and at the end of that period he would be owner in fee simple of the holding. While the Ashbourne act was pending in parliament a year ago Mr. Parnell, opposing it, declared that "the government had not taken up the land question with a view to helping the tenant, but at the solicitation of the landlords, who, seeing they could not any longer maintain their position, wanted to dispose of their property at inflated prices"—an allegation that is at least plausible in view of the fact that the bill did not make provision for the purchase of lands at prices actually representing the landlords' interests.

Archbishop Walsh has always been a staunch supporter of Mr. Parnell, and the latter has a warm admiration for the

prelate. The nationalist views of Father Walsh were urged against him when, in 1885, it became necessary to fill the vacancy in the archdiocese of Dublin occasioned by the death of Cardinal McCabe, who in his lifetime had been an unsparing unionist. Indeed, while Father Walsh was president of Maynooth college his activity in behalf of the land league brought upon him the anger of the cardinal, who threatened him with banishment to an obscure parish but was met with a bold defiance, which, as Father Walsh had about ninety-nine out of every hundred of the Irish clergy at his back, the cardinal did not deem it prudent to accept. The archbishop has all the characteristics of a reformer; he is eloquent, fearless, and sincere in his convictions.

TO-DAY.

It is quite possible that some decisive step may be taken to-day toward reaching the end of the deadlock.

Fair-minded men of both parties seem to be drifting toward a solution of the trouble by means of an investigation—while all other questions are held in abeyance—of the election of members of the house whose seats are in dispute. The democratic senators-elect proposed such an investigation to the republican senators, but the latter thought the other branch of the legislature was the proper body to make the inquiry. The democratic representatives also proposed to the republican representatives-elect to make such an investigation, but no basis for an agreement was reached. There is still a desire on the part of many men on both sides to see if a settlement of difficulties cannot be reached through an investigation that will settle the Silver Bow contest.

The democratic senators, as we understand it, stand ready to step forward and complete the organization of the senate by taking the oath of office, if met in a spirit of fairness by the other side. There should be mutual concession.

Let both houses be organized to-day. Both together!

The democratic senators are all right. They are men who have the best interests of the party at heart, who realize the responsibility developing upon them as representatives of the party and who will sink individual views and preferences for the common good. They know that the eyes of the whole country are upon them and it can be safely assumed that they will not put their party in a false attitude before the world; nor will they take any unguarded step in a crisis of such grave import.

Referring to the endorsement by Director Leech, of Windom's silver bullion scheme, the New York Times says:

Mr. Leech, the director of the mint, is as may be supposed, very strongly in favor of the silver plan of Mr. Windom. The secretary would hardly have made so elaborate a scheme without consulting the director, and if the latter had not approved of it he would probably have kept quiet on the subject. Mr. Leech says that every objection that has been made to the plan was carefully considered and provided against. This is true in a measure. The secretary undoubtedly considered carefully the objection that combinations would be possible to fix prices for the government to pay, and thought he had provided against it in giving the secretary power to suspend the receipt of deposits; but he can hardly have considered the objection that this gave to the secretary an undue, dangerous power, sure to expose him to suspicion, and liable to expose him to temptation. That is a very serious matter, and we have not as yet seen it treated in a satisfactory fashion.

The French government is said to be contemplating the imposition of a tax upon foreigners resident in that country. Americans who have made France their home can, doubtless, afford to pay such a tax; can Frenchmen who come to the United States to find means of subsistence (the number who did so in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1888, was 6,454) as well afford to pay a tax for the privileges they seek? "It's a poor rule that won't work both ways."

The simultaneous assembling of the republican representatives-elect and the democratic senators-elect in their places at the court house this morning, their agreement on an impartial investigation of the election in Silver Bow county, the deferring of action on the senatorships until the committee's report shall be disposed of—that would be an honorable way out of existing difficulties.

Beware the Greeks bearing gifts. When the organs of Russell Harrison and Lee Mantle begin to praise the democratic legislators for any contemplated step, poke around under the meal tub for the cat.

The democrats of Montana are not submitting to the dictation of the republican organs in this state to any great extent.

Gowen's Mind was Unbalanced. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.—The remains of Franklin B. Gowen, who committed suicide in Washington, reached this city this morning and were at once conveyed to his residence at Mount Airy, near Germantown. The funeral takes place Tuesday. It is said that Mrs. Gowen told close friends of the family that for ten days previous to her husband's last visit to Washington she had noticed something strange in his conduct. It is thought by many here that the great lawyer's mind became unbalanced through too persistent application to business and that the suicide was due to this cause.

THE CITY SCHOOLS.

Their Present Condition, Needs and Future Prospects.

The public schools of our city have now been in session nearly four months of the present school year. In view of the fact that the schools cost the city such a large amount of money from year to year, it seems just and proper that a clear statement of their condition should occasionally be given. The monthly pay roll now amounts to about \$2,750. This sum is divided among thirty-three teachers and without including the salary of the superintendent, makes an average of about \$75 per month. This sum according to the report of ex-Gov. White, is but little if any higher than that paid to teachers and other laboring classes of our city.

The question, however, is not what amount is paid, but does the city get value received? There would be just as much economy in paying \$100 per month as \$50, provided there was value received. In fact, it is generally conceded in most lines of business that it would be more economical in the end to pay the greater sum. A visit to the schools will develop the fact that the rooms are well filled. We learn from the superintendent that the average number belonging for the month ending November 22, was 1,094, or an average of about thirty-eight per room. Of this large number belonging nearly 350 are in the first primaries, of which there are seven. One hundred and ten are in the fourth grade and about seventy are enrolled in the two sixth grades. These figures show that the great body of pupils are in the lower grades of our schools.

It is evident, therefore, that as classes are promoted there will be a consequent crowding of the middle rooms and even now some of these are badly overcrowded. This will result in the near future in a pressing demand for more rooms for the use of the intermediate and grammar grades.

We understand that already steps have been taken to erect a new and commodious building in the near future. This should be pushed along as rapidly as possible for the probabilities now are that there will be a larger influx of new pupils next fall.

The high school now numbers over sixty, which is as large a number as the present room can well accommodate. The class in No. Eight which will go into the high school next fall numbers about thirty. These pupils together with those who will naturally come from outside sources will run the enrollment up to 100, a number which cannot possibly be accommodated in the rooms now used.

The course of study which has been adopted by the board of trustees is modern, practical and fully up to the needs of the district and city. Furthermore it is being carried out by the superintendent and teachers with some slight modifications, made necessary by the change in text books. The number work in the primary grades is now being taught by means of objects. Each room is provided with a table and small wooden cubes in sufficient numbers to accommodate the classes. Around these tables the pupils stand and, under the direction of the teacher, use these cubes to illustrate the work they are being taught. It will well repay those interested in our schools to visit them and see this and other lines of work in which the pupils are engaged.

There is too little interest manifested by citizens in the inside workings of our schools. When we come to show a real interest in this costly institution, visiting it from time to time, we shall find both teachers and pupils doing better work, and thus the district will receive better returns for the money invested.

In looking over the superintendent's reports for November we observed that there were, all told, only ninety-three visitors in the schools of the city; also, that six of the schools reported only one visitor and seven of them none at all.

December 29 the schools close for a two weeks' vacation lasting through the holidays. On the last Friday afternoon there will be a patriotic nature as far as possible. At the close of these exercises the pupils from all parts of the city will assemble at the central building, if the weather is fair, to witness the raising of the new and beautiful United States flag which is herewith to wave over the public schools of our city. This flag is of heavy bunting, eight by twelve feet, and contains on its blue field forty-two stars. This is a good move and one that will delight not only the children but all true lovers of our country. We suggest that henceforth the motto of our schools be, "Intelligence, Patriotism and Morality."

The semi-annual promotion will occur two weeks after the opening of the winter term. The first week will be devoted to reviews and the second week to examinations, after which promotions will take place in all the rooms. According to the system introduced by Supt. Young, promotions will occur again at the close of the year. This arrangement brings the promotions at regular intervals of eighteen weeks instead of nine months. One of the advantages secured is that any pupil who fails to do the work of his class satisfactorily falls back only half a year instead of a whole year.

The attendance at the present time, we are told, is quite irregular. There are numerous cases of scarlet fever, mostly of a mild form; many are suffering from severe colds, while quite a number are absent from other causes. It is hoped that with the advent of cold weather and the rest of the holiday vacation the attendance and punctuality will be materially improved.

Some changes in the teaching force will occur next term, we are told. This will be caused by the voluntary resignation of one or more of our old and faithful teachers. We doubt not the board of trustees will fill any such vacancies with the best talent that can be obtained.

Think of it! A handsome book of standard authors in elegant cloth binding for 25 cents at the Journal Publishing Company's, 111 Main street, Pittsburgh block.

New West Side Market.

Jan. 1, 1890, we will open a west side meat market at No. 403 Park avenue, where we will be better able to accommodate our numerous west side customers, and be pleased to see many new ones. With our east side and west side markets we feel we are well prepared to serve any part of the city. Respectfully, MATTHEWS BROS.

Notice of Removal.

Drs. Bacon & Haight have removed to their spacious parlors, rooms 1, 2, 3 and 4 Broadway building, corner Sixth avenue and Main street.

C. B. JACQUEMIN.



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Watchmakers, Jewelers and Silversmiths.

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27 MAIN STREET.

Jewelry Repaired and new Jewelry manufactured from Native Gold. Notarial and Corporation Seal Presses made to order. Agents for the Celebrated Geo. Steck & Co., Mehlin & Sons, Keanich & Bach Henning, Huner Pianos, and others.

The Piano Department is under the supervision of Prof. M. H. Hirschfield.

HELENA, MONTANA.

AMUSEMENTS.

Miss Madden To-Morrow Night—Herr Bandmann's Company Next Week.

To-morrow evening Miss Madden opens a three nights' engagement at Ming's opera house. On Tuesday and Wednesday evenings the famous play, "In Spite of All," will be presented, and on Thursday evening Miss Madden will be seen in a delightful comedy, "Featherbrain." Miss Madden and company are under the direction of Daniel Frohman, of the famous Lyceum theater. This fact carries the assurance that there will be no weak places in the presentation of the plays. The sale of seats will open this morning at Pope & O'Connor's.

The Bandmann Festivals.

Herr Daniel Bandmann, the great tragedian, will give the citizens of Helena a royal festival of entertainment next week. Beginning on Monday, with the assistance of a large and capable company, he will produce splendid dramatic performances each night during the week, with two matinees. The repertoire of plays, as given in another column, shows that the people of Helena will have an unusual opportunity to witness high class performances of great dramatic works.

Katie Putnam Coming.

The pleasing announcement is made that Katie Putnam, the rightly popular soubrette, will occupy the boards at Ming's during New Year week. The list of plays to be presented will be announced later.

Make a Switch.

Go to A. J. Davidson & Co.'s for a pair of Nason's patent runners for buggies and hacks.

Buy your wife a Christmas present in the shape of a 12-piece dinner set, fine decoration, only 244 at The Bee Hive.

The Spokane Falls and Northern.

The story of the Spokane Falls and Northern reads like magic. About eleven months ago D. C. Corbin, brother of Austin Corbin, the New York financier, sold out to the Northern Pacific his branch road and line of boats by which the Comf d'Alene mines are reached. With the comfortable feeling of a man about to take a good rest, he started for the east, but stopped over a day or two in Spokane Falls. Some of the business men of the city talked with him about the feasibility of a railroad north to Colville. The conversation was general. No propositions were made on either side. Mr. Corbin went east and had his rest. About the middle of February he returned to Spokane, took a carriage and drove northward. The country, even in mid-winter, pleased him. When he got in from his tour he made a proposition to the Spokane business men.

"I told them," said Mr. Corbin, in narrating the story, "that, if they would subscribe \$100,000, I'd undertake to build a road to Colville. They got out, and, by thunder! in four days they raised the money. I immediately telegraphed some friends in New York I knew I could rely on. They said all right and I went ahead. Before I left here in March to go east I had organized the company, put engineering parties in the field and had let some contracts. The snow was still on the ground. I went east, made the financial arrangements and came back. The road is finished to Colville, eighty-eight miles. It is finished in the most substantial manner, with a maximum grade of only 1 per cent nearly the entire distance. The equipment is complete and of the best quality throughout. How was it done? I said to myself: 'This road has got to be built and running to Colville by the 10th of October.' I believe in pushing an enterprise of this kind. It works things up to high pressure, and is, in the end, the cheapest. Within eight months from the inception of the scheme trains are running on regular schedule."

Ball's Cabinets at \$3 Per Dozen. Cabinet photos \$3 per dozen at Ball's gallery, Helena avenue, corner Warren, on car line.

THIRTY DAYS.

Notice to Stove Buyers and House-keepers.

From the 1st of December to the 1st of January we will sell stoves and tinware lower than ever. We carry the largest and best line of stoves in Helena, "Universal" brand. Before purchasing elsewhere call and see our stock, especially our double heating hard coal base burners. This stove is so constructed that it takes all cold air from the floor, draws same through the stove and distributes hot air through the room, at the same time burning only one-half the fuel of any other hard coal stove. Call and be convinced.

STURROCK & BROWN.

An Opportunity to Start in Business. A stock of cigars approximating 50,000 comprising domestic and imported brands, are offered at cost to close out a wholesale business. Terms cash, or will take Helena real estate in exchange. Also offer a team of horses, harness and wagon. Enquire of John W. Thompson, room 12, Pittsburgh block.

Toy books, drums, tool chests, child's dishes, games of all kinds, guns, holiday-cards, etc., etc., are to be found at The Bee Hive cheaper than elsewhere.

Pictures framed and unframed at your own prices at Calkins & Feathers'.

Try It.

Try our best patent flour, the best in the market, and Whittaker Star flours, at J. H. T. Murphy & Co.'s.

BARGAINS!

\$5000 Buys 12-Room House Near the Business Center.

\$6500 Buys New House that Cost Over \$7000.

\$1800 Buys New 5-Room House.

\$200 Buys Choice Lot Fronting Broadwater Hotel.

100 Feet on Main St. VERY CHEAP!

Remember we are Agents for All the Choice Residence Property on the West Side.

Porter, Muth & Cox, GOLD BLOCK, HELENA.

A FEW

Sensible Thoughts to Buyers of Holiday Gifts. Do not buy Useless "Jim-cracks" for Holiday Presents.

The gifts that are most appreciated are those that are the most useful and sensible.

We have marked our entire stock of Seal Plush Cloaks at exactly the New York cost for the Holiday season.

What would be more desirable as a gift for your sister, cousin, or your aunt, than one of those handsome Seal Plush Jackets that we have reduced from

\$15.00 TO \$9.00,

or one of those very stylish 30-inch English Top Coats, reduced from

\$25.00 TO \$19.00.

The best value for the money of anything in the cloak line that was ever offered in Helena is the 40-inch Seal Plush Sack that we have reduced from

\$30.00 TO \$20.00.

Forty-four inch Seal Plush Sack, finished in the very latest style. We have made the very low reduction from

\$42.50 TO \$30.00.

Forty-six inch Seal Plush Sack, the best value for the money we have mentioned, has been reduced from

\$45.00 TO \$32.50.

These garments we will guarantee to be the best goods made, in quality, fit and style—not such goods as you usually find at "special sales" everywhere.

These are only a few of the many grand bargains we are offering in our Cloak and Suit Department.

FASCINATORS.

Hoods and Toboggans, new, fresh, clean goods, just received, which we bought as a job, and will sell at 50c. on the dollar.

We do not keep the useless "jim-cracks" for Holiday gifts, such as you find in some dry goods stores, believing that the proper place to buy toys is at the toy stores, or for pictures is at the art stores, candy at the confectionery stores, etc. But if you want anything in straight, legitimate Dry Goods the proper place is at

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WOOD, COAL, IRON, LEAD, COPPER, SILVER, GOLD,

GRAIN, FRUIT, LUMBER, Etc., Etc.

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